

MENOMONIE AIRPORT COMMISSION

July 18, 2006

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Menomonie Airport Commission was called to order at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, July 18, 2006 at the Menomonie Municipal Airport Terminal Building by Chairman Bob Willow. Other members present included Overby, Johnson, Woodford and Trimble. Also present were Marge McCabe, Diane Lueder, Tom and Barb Johnson, Earl Wildenberg, Sarah Ryder, Dave Tarter, Louis Paffel and Lowell Prange. A motion was made by Woodford seconded by Overby, to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2006 regular Menomonie Airport Commission meeting. Motion carried.

A number of Shorewood Heights subdivision residents spoke about the additional air traffic, noise and flight patterns being utilized by aircraft using the facility. Community members McCabe, Lueder and Tom Johnson expressed concerns with noise, flight altitude, frequency of flights and personal safety issues currently being experienced by the residential neighborhood. Questions were also asked of the Commission regarding Airport planning, accommodations for impacts to affected residents, authority of the Commission and numerous other issues. Ron Ford representing Menard, Inc. explained that their planes are forced to use runway 09 when winds exceed a 5 to 10 knot tail wind. Six Menard's planes are using the airport on a scheduled basis with lesser flights on the weekend and most of the corporate planes are quieter than the piston aircraft owned by general aviation pilots. At this point the Chairman closed the public comments but invited interaction from the audience during the Commission discussion on each item.

The Chairman indicated that the FAA had been at the airport between July 14th and 18th doing field work for the 405 survey. A letter explaining this activity was provided to the Commission with the City staff directed to follow up with the Bureau of Aeronautics on the outcome.

The Commission held a lengthy discussion on the Menard, Inc lease request based on a letter received from the corporation on July 7th 2006. After considering the proposed site, the role of the Commission, local airport development and the status of Menard, Inc. facilities in Eau Claire, a motion was made by Trimble, seconded by Overby authorizing the City Administrator and Public Works Director to enter into discussions with Menard, Inc. regarding their needs to locate / lease property at the Menomonie Municipal Airport. Motion carried.

The chairman and airport manager reviewed their monthly reports with no specific action being taken on any of the information. It was noted that the airport has sold more fuel since Menard, Inc. has been using the airport than during all the previous time that jet fuel has been available. Airport manager Paffel indicated a need for air conditioning and a water bubbler at the FBO facility. After some discussion, a motion made by Johnson, seconded by Trimble directing the City to purchase a water cooler and air conditioner for the City owned FBO building. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Menomonie Airport Commission will be on Tuesday, August 15th in the City Hall Council Chambers. A motion was made by Trimble, seconded by Woodford to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lowell R. Prange,
Acting Recording Secretary